



World Christian Fellowship

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Kingdom of God 08

Prayer- Communication in the Kingdom

In our study so far of the kingdom of God,

- ✓ The **proclamation** of the kingdom was a major theme in the teaching of Christ and His apostles
- ✓ The **nature** of the kingdom is spiritual, not physical, involving the reign of God in Christ through the believers.
- ✓ The **establishment** of the kingdom was inaugurated at Jesus' first coming, and will be culminated with His second coming

At present we live in this world with Kingdom in ourselves, but we are living a spiritual life.

One of the greatest warfare what the Lord has blessed us with us is “Prayer”.

Luke 18:1,

There are the two options.

1. You can pray
2. You can faint.

The Lord asks us to choose the praying side.

We are going to use the Letter to Ephesians church for this study.

This is one of the marvelous books to teach us about the spiritual side of our lives.

Chapter 1:

Ephesians 1:3,

V 4 we are chosen in Him before the foundation of the world to become holy and blameless.

V4-5, we are loved to be predestined to be adopted as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself.

V 7, He has given us redemption which includes the forgiveness of our trespasses.

V 11, We are given an inheritance, that is undefiled, that fades not away as incorruptible.

V 13, We are made secure by sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise.

Chapter 2,

We were dead in trespasses and sin.

We were under control of the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that works in the children of disobedience.

We live in the lust of the flesh, desires of the flesh and lusts guide us, guard us, motivate us, drive us, compel us.

We are by nature headed for divine wrath like everybody else.

V 4-6, “God who is rich in mercy because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were in that condition, raised us with Christ, seated us with Him in the heavenlies in Christ.

We are alive and we shall live forever.”

We are objects of grace and will always be.

V 7, says that God is going to show us the riches of His grace in kindness through Christ Jesus, not just in time, but in the ages to come. Eternally, we will receive His grace.

V 10, We are His masterpiece, His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works which God designed from the very beginning.

V 13-18, Brought near to God who were formerly far off.

Both Jew and Gentile made one.

The barrier between the two broken down, abolished in His death at the cross.

V19, we are members of His family.

We are God's household.

V 22, We are a building in which the Holy Spirit lives.

Chapter 3,

Elements to the blessedness that has been given to us.

Fellow heirs,

Fellow members of the body,

Fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

We are part of the manifold wisdom of God.

That Wisdom of God manifest through the church to the heavenly authorities.

Chapter 3 ends with a great prayer that we would understand the riches.

We would be strengthened with the available power through the Holy Spirit in our inner man.

We would experience Christ settling down in our hearts, being rooted and grounded in love which is poured in us.

He prays that we would be able to grasp with all saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge.

To be able to get a comprehension of the vastness of this saving love.

We would experience the fullness of God.

We would know what it means to do exceedingly abundantly beyond all we can ask or think according to the power that works inside of us.

Chapter 4

We are called on to act like God.

- Since we possess the Son of God and the Spirit of God,
- Have a relationship with God the Father,
- We are members of the body of Christ,
- We are in the church
- Under the direction and leadership of the Apostles, prophets, evangelists and teaching pastors who are given to the church for the perfecting of the saints.

Since all these things work for us and in us, since we are growing together into Christ's likeness.

V 17, We don't live the way we used to live, we don't walk the way we used to walk.

V 20, We have learned Christ, we need to be continually being renewed in the spirit of our minds, put on fully the new self in the likeness of God.

Chapter 5,

We ought to walk like God,

V 1-7, Walk in love,

V 8-14, Walk in the Light,

V 15-21, Walk in Wisdom

V 22, until Chapter 6:9 you can walk in every relationship.

Chapter 6

V 10, we have received the full armor of God.

Why because we are NOT fighting against anything physical. We are on a Spiritual battle.

Ephesians 6:12,

You have been given the full armor of God to protect you.

Since you have

- ✓ all blessings,
- ✓ all power,
- ✓ all resources,
- ✓ all grace and
- ✓ victory is guaranteed.
- ✓ triumph is settled
- ✓ full inheritance, and
- ✓ you are secure forever.

Since you have all these things you might think that this is enough.

But remember, we are still human, and we still have remaining sin.

Ephesians 6:18-20,

Prayer is the breath of the Christian's life.

Prayer is the air which we breathe. As the human body exists by taking the air in, so the believer should be living in an attitude of prayer. The need to come before God like our breathing.

You don't have to try to breathe, the air makes you breathe. Just try holding your breath. It's easy to breathe, it's hard to hold your breath.

Similarity for the believer, it's easy to pray, it's hard not to pray.

The word "All" used four times in this verse.

1. Pray at all times

Jesus told to His disciples.

Luke 21:36, "Watch and pray always."

The early Apostles said the same.

Acts 6:4, "We will give ourselves continually to prayer."

Acts 10: 2,

Cornelius prayed to God always.

Romans 12:12,

Philippians 4:6,

1 Thessalonians 5:17, Pray without ceasing.

Paul did that.

2 Timothy 1:3,

This shows this cannot be,

- ✓ Recited prayer
- ✓ Formula prayer
- ✓ Set time like Jewish and other religious
- ✓ Set place
- ✓ Set time

To apply this practically,

When you see something good your response is to offer thanks to God.

When you see evil your response to ask God to make it right.

When you see sinner, you pray for the sinner.

So, what is your instant response?

It is to go to God.

Either God name is honoured or dishonoured.

Your prayer must be steadfast and continuous.

Colossians 4:2,

2. Pray with all prayer and petition/ supplication

You pray all kinds of prayers

- ✓ Public,
- ✓ Private,
- ✓ Verbal,
- ✓ Silent,
- ✓ Loud,
- ✓ Soft,
- ✓ Deliberate,
- ✓ Planned,
- ✓ Unplanned,
- ✓ Spontaneous,
- ✓ Requests,
- ✓ Thanks,
- ✓ Confession,
- ✓ Humiliation,
- ✓ Praise,
- ✓ Standing,
- ✓ Kneeling,
- ✓ Lying down,
- ✓ Lifting up your hands,
- ✓ Putting your hands down
- ✓ Many more...

1 Timothy 2:8,

Pray in every way you can possibly pray in every kind of prayer and every circumstance which calls for prayer!

Psalms 55:17,

Luke 6:12,

1 Timothy 5:5,

I personally enjoy praying when I am walking.

3. All Perseverance Prayer

Pray continuously while watching. Prayer is to be alert to the issues, alert to what's happening.

Jesus said, "Watch and pray," many times. Even in the Garden of Gethsemane He did warn them.

Matthew 26:41,

1 Peter 4:7,

Sometimes you don't know what to pray. There are so many of our church leaders, Members and online listeners and our Daily Devotion team, Maalai Manna team etc.,

Sometime there are specific prayers.

Jesus had given us the promise.

John 14:13-14,

Most of us become serious about prayer only when something happens in our own lives. We are ten times more intense about our own problems than we are about anybody else's. This shows the self-centeredness that we have to live with.

Can you lose yourself in the needs of others like the dear apostle Paul?

Could you say, "I prayed for you night and day with tears"?

Your priority in prayer should be:

I am praying for the advance of the Kingdom of God and the lives of His people.

I am praying for souls to be won to Jesus Christ.

Although I realize that there is a physical need, and it has a tremendous affect upon our spiritual lives, that comes secondary.

4. Praying always for all saints

Frequency	Always
Variety	All kinds
Matter	All Perseverance
Object	All Saints

- ✓ We are commanded to pray for each other!
- ✓ You know, it does not tell us to pray for ourselves!

Let me share a secret which is very personal.

I don't pray for myself.

I can hardly grasp in my mind all the things that are needed which led me not to pray for my needs.

I realize that I have needs, and I do ask the Lord about sinful things, and I do confess things in my life.

I trust the Scripture and praying for others rather than myself.

I get covered because others pray for me.

In the Old Testament we find a great example.

Samuel Praying for Saul at his coronation

1 Samuel 12:23,

Apostle Paul echoes this in his life.

Romans 1:9,

Philippians 1:3-4,

1 Thessalonians 1:2,

2 Timothy 1:3,

Don't worry about you.

You pray for somebody else, somebody else prays for you

Conclusion:

V 18, Pray in the Spirit

Jude 1:20,

Romans 8:26-27,

Zechariah 12:10,

Finally, Paul says, “Pray for me.”

Not for any of my needs but for the Kingdom to be expanded.

Let's pray about spiritual things!

Let's open our lives to each other so we have something to pray for one another!!

“God, glorify Yourself by putting Your power on display,
Your grace on display,
Your mercy on display,
Your wisdom on display,
Your truth on display by answering this prayer concerning these saints.”